

*Respect*

*Achievement*

*Citizenship*

Karen J. Cahill  
Principal, ext. 5503

The seal of the Town of Milton, Massachusetts, is a circular emblem. It features a central shield with a sailing ship, surrounded by the text "TOWN OF MILTON" at the top and "INCORPORATED 1640" at the bottom. The seal is red and white.  
**MILTON HIGH SCHOOL**  
25 Gile Road  
Milton, MA 02186 617-696-4470

Benjamin J. Kelly  
Vice Principal, ext. 5504

Brian E. Mackinaw  
Vice Principal, ext. 5507

February 5, 2021

Good afternoon MHS Students and Families,

I am so happy to start this letter off with some great community projects for our students and families!

**Class of 2024** is having a food drive for the [Community Fridge](#) in Mattapan. They will be delivering all donations on Thursday, February 11th at noon. Please see [this flyer](#) for more information.

**Key Club** will be holding a coat drive at 2 locations, Cunningham Park and Milton High School. They will be collected on Saturday, February 13, from 9:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. Anyone is more than welcome to donate jackets or coats, all of which should have been gently used. They will be donated to people in need, so any donations would be greatly appreciated.

#### **Achieve Program**

I would like to give a shout out to some of our students at MHS who took some time to make quilts for our students in Achieve. Nora Biagiotti, Emily Karimbakas, Fallon Heelen, Casie Peterson, Caroline McHugh, Chloe Kenney, Bela Taylor (NDA), Cathernie Howley, and Garett Glenn made fleece blankets for all of our in-person students in Achieve! They embroidered their name and graduation year on them. The girls noticed our kids sitting outside having snacks and thought it would be nice for them to have blankets to sit on instead. [Take a look](#) at the great work and amazing students at MHS!

#### **Honor Roll**

I am proud to recognize our [Term 1 honor roll students](#) with the MHS community. These students have shown academic tenacity during these difficult months of COVID. There are two Honor Roll categories: High Honors is reserved for students receiving all A's (all subjects counted) and Honors is reserved for students receiving all A's and B's (all subjects counted). Students receiving one C+ grade will be honorably mentioned. Congratulations to our Honor Roll students!

#### **Senior Diplomas and Scholarships**

If you have not already done so, please find time to stop by the main office to check the spelling of your name for your high school diploma. This must be completed before February Vacation to ensure accurate diplomas are ordered. If you are a remote student, Mr. Spindle has already emailed you a Google Form to fill out. Make sure you fill it out by February Vacation.

Mr. Devlin sent [this email](#) about scholarships to our Class of 2021 last week. We also sent [this letter](#) to our Class of 2021 and their families yesterday.

#### **COVID Testing Reschedule**

The free COVID testing day scheduled for this Sunday, February 7th at the Milton DPW yard has been rescheduled to Sunday, February 14th due to preliminary forecasts calling for possible plowable snow.

### **Friendly Reminder for MHS Remote Classrooms**

- Attendance in all live remote Google Meetings is mandatory.
- Be on time for class and stay for the entire class period
- Try to create a learning space where you will be free from distractions (put away your cell phone, turn off the television etc during class).
- Have class materials ready and nearby before class begins.
- Dress appropriately - no pajamas, no hoods; school dress code applies (see handbook for specifics).
- Your icon should be school appropriate and represent you. We recommend a headshot picture.
- Your screen names must be your first and last name.
- Mute your microphone unless you are talking.
- Indicate that you want to speak by raising your hand, using the chat, or the NOD extension (when available).
- The chat will be used for class related discussion only, as allowed by your teacher
- If you are having technical issues, contact your teacher via email or Google Classroom to explain the circumstances.
- All of the following cases will result in you being marked absent:
  - You never sign in to the Google Meet
  - You are signed in to the Google Meet but fail to actively participate in class
  - You are signed in to the Google Meet but leave the session or leave the computer for a significant portion of the class.
- Your icon should be school appropriate & represent you. We recommend a headshot picture
- Your screen names must be your first and last name.

### **Class Attendance & Cameras**

**As more students are required to live stream into class due to being in quarantine we are asking that all students keep their cameras on.** This benefits your teachers and your learning experience. With new features in Google like Background Blur and the ability to select a new background, leaving your camera on has never been easier. It will help with classroom engagement and hopefully provide more interaction with other students and MHS staff. When students' cameras are turned on, teachers are able to more readily facilitate classroom dialogue, check for students' understanding of the lesson being presented, and monitor students' progress.

Please check in with your child to see if their camera is on during class, if it isn't, ask why. While we do understand that some students may be uncomfortable with their camera on, most are not and it does help with engagement, helps facilitate classroom discussions and interactions with their peers.

If you wish to have your child excused from being expected to have his/her camera on during remote instruction, please complete this linked authorization [form](#). Only parents/guardians who wish to excuse their child from using their camera need to complete this [form](#).

### **Food Service**

Our weekly Food Service drive-through continues to be open every Wednesday, including during February vacation week.

Weekly Pick Up: Weekly pick up is available at two different times on Wednesdays. Come to MHS 9:30-10:30 or 12:30-1:30 (please don't arrive before 12:15 to allow for MHS pick up) to pick up 7 days of breakfast and lunches and a fresh produce box.

Grab and Go: Available each day as your student leaves school. Multiple breakfasts, lunches, and snacks are included in each bag. Students can take a grab and go bag with several breakfasts and lunches as they leave school each day.

### **Applied Lessons**

The Milton Instrumental Applied Lesson Program has openings for beginning students for Session 2 starting the end of this month! The program has spots available on the following instruments: Violin, Viola, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone and Tuba. If you have a student who would like to start taking lessons on one of these instruments, please contact Rebecca Damiani – [rdamiani@miltonps.org](mailto:rdamiani@miltonps.org). Information for Session 2 can be found here: [ALP Session 2 Registration](#) All information for beginning students can be found here: [ALP Beginner Registration](#)

### **Covid-Related Absences & Live Streaming**

As more students need to quarantine due to being a close contact of a positive Covid-19 case you should inform Nurse Coughlin ASAP via phone at 617-696-4470 x 5537 or via email at [kacoughlin@miltonps.org](mailto:kacoughlin@miltonps.org). We continue to ask that parents/guardians contact Nurse Coughlin or the main office about requesting your child to stream into classes so we can notify your child's teachers. **Students cannot ask teachers to attend remotely for covid or non-covid related absences; all requests are to be made by parents/guardians.** Teachers are being asked to forward any requests they receive from students or parents to Nurse Coughlin and the main office so students are marked appropriately in attendance and so we communicate with home about next steps. I truly appreciate your help and cooperation with this.

### **AP Payments are Past Due**

Online Exam Payment will remain open. Any AP students who have not paid will be contacted by your teacher/main office and may be expected to pay a late fee. Students requiring financial assistance should contact Mr. Kelly, [bkelly@miltonps.org](mailto:bkelly@miltonps.org), in the MHS Main Office. In order to pay, students must know their Student ID #. We know that parents may desire to pay for their students' exams but we strongly recommend that parents and students are both present to ensure that the correct exams are paid for. Using the drop down menu please select all AP exams you are enrolled in and will be taking in May, and enter the number of exams in the quantity field.

The [MPS Online Payment Center](#) (UniBank) can be found on the [www.miltonps.org](http://www.miltonps.org) website.

Take care and have a nice weekend.

Sincerely,



Karen J. Cahill

Principal

[kcahill@miltonps.org](mailto:kcahill@miltonps.org)

617-696-4470 x5503

## **Reminders Important Links and Reminders from Past Newsletters:**

### **National Honor Society Tutoring**

The National Honor Society will be offering free virtual tutoring from 3:00 - 3:45 pm on day 1 and day 3 afternoons. All MHS students are welcome to join to get help on any of their subjects! More information can be found [here](#)

### **Educational Equity**

[Somaly Prak-Martins](#), Senior Director of Educational Equity, shares the following: [Please see this link to read our February issue of the Behaving Equitably newsletter](#). Inside, you will find updates and information on the upcoming Quality Review from an Equity Lens, Black History Month, Curriculum, Community Partnerships, and more.

### **Guidance Department Presentations**

[MASSASOIT COMMUNITY COLLEGE ADMISSIONS OVERVIEW](#) - Christopher Horn, Associate Director of Admissions, Massasoit Community College

[PARENT AND STUDENT GUIDE TO COLLEGE ADMISSIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES](#) - Bridget Canty, MHS Special Educator

[POST-SECONDARY PLANNING FOR STUDENTS WITH IEPs AND 504's](#) - Gabriella Diller, MHS Team Chair

[HISTORICAL BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES OVERVIEW](#) - Stephanie Gray, MHS Guidance Department

[NCAA ATHLETICS](#) - Ryan Madden, MHS Athletic Director

[FINANCING HIGHER EDUCATION](#) - Todd Weaver, Senior Vice President, Strategies for College, Inc.

[NAVIANCE OVERVIEW](#) - Scott Devlin, Lead Counselor, MHS Guidance Department

[COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTING](#) - Drew Heilpern, Summit Educational Group, Inc.

[MILTON COLLEGE ADMISSIONS PRESENTATION](#) - Allison Sherlock, Regional Associate Director of Admission, Saint Michael's College

### **Milton Public Library**

In the "Library of Things" Collection at the Milton Public Library they have chromebooks with hotspots. More details can be found [here](#).

### **Milton Foundation for Education**

[Please consider making a donation to the MFE at this link to continue this critical work this year, as this will likely be our only fundraiser.](#)

### **User Fees for Clubs & Activities**

Please use the [MPS Online Payment Center](#) on the [www.miltonps.org](http://www.miltonps.org) website to pay all Club & Activity User Fees, if you have not done so already. Students who have qualified for Free/Reduced Lunch are not required to pay club fees.

### **Technology**

Don't forget to check out our [Family Technology Support page](#) for helpful tips on technology issues. Bookmark this page for up to date information!

### **Food Services**

Just a reminder that **any** student at MHS can pick up a FREE lunch or breakfast [without even signing up](#). If you think your family may qualify for free or reduced lunch please complete [this application](#).

### **Health Check Before School**

Please continue to use the [Pre-Screening Checklist](#) prior to sending students to school. Parents/guardians, please call the Main Office at 617-696-4470 to document the absence, and if you/your student has any of the symptoms listed on the daily health screen checklist, please reach out to MHS Nurse Kim Coughlin ([kacoughlin@miltonps.org](mailto:kacoughlin@miltonps.org)).

**Principal's Corner**

Did you miss a newsletter? Take a look at the [Principal's Corner](#). You can find this tab on our MHS homepage.